

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 COTONO 00403 161437Z  
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 COME-00 L-03 HA-05 TRSE-00  
/027 W

-----007420 161440Z /45

P 161300Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0543

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COTONOU 0403

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EINV, DM  
SUBJ: JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES CLAIM

REF: A. STATE 61966 B. STATE 40362

1. FOR PAST TWO WEEKS ALL GOVERNMENT OF PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BENIN (GPRB) FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN UNAVAILABLE DUE TO PREPARATION FOR OCAM MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE DUE TO FINISH MARCH 18. EARLIEST WE CAN OBTAIN NECESSARY INFO IS WEEK OF MARCH 20.

2. OUR OWN VIEW IS THAT SINCE GPRB HAS AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO COMPENSATE JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES, WHAT IS NECESSARY NOW IS DESIGNATION OF SOMEONE TO SPEAK ON WITNESSES' BEHALF AND SELECTION OF APPROPRIATE VENUE. AS WITNESSES ARE ASKING FOR SUM ON ORDER OF COMPENSATION ACTUALLY RECEIVED BY MOBIL AND TEXACO FOR THEIR ASSETS, WE WOULD EXPECT TALKS ON AGREED AMOUNT OF COMPENSATION TO BE LENGTHY. SUGGEST WITNESSES CHOOSE SOMEONE TO ACT ON THEIR BEHALF AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

3. WILL SEND INFO REQUESTED REF B AS SOON AS IT IS AVAILABLE.  
THOMPSON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CLAIM, MISSIONARIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978COTON000403  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780117-0550  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** COTONOU  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780362/aaaabzyb.tel  
**Line Count:** 47  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 7e274bc6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 1  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 STATE 61966  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 19 apr 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3313695  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES CLAIM  
**TAGS:** EINV, SOCI, DM, JEHOVAH WITNESSES  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/7e274bc6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014